

Prior to his current assignment, Tony had the privilege of being an Air Force fellow for Representative LIZ CHENEY. In addition to his numerous and impressive professional accomplishments, it is worth noting he flawlessly balanced his duties, evidenced by his ability to allocate personal time to selflessly volunteer as local neighborhood math tutor, where Tony's enthusiastic service empowered DC youth and inspired community partnership. His passion for not only the organization he works for but also the community in which he resides is unrivaled.

As a legislative liaison in the Air Force Senate Liaison Office from November 2019 to May 2021, Lieutenant Colonel Santino expertly performed his duties without reservation. His strategic thinking and strategic foresight helped to strengthen and improve our national security. Tony accomplished this by utilizing his in depth Air Force knowledge with numerous engagements between Congress and the Department of the Air Force. During this assignment, Tony conducted congressional engagements to provide Members of Congress and staff insights into the Air Force we need and Air Force required to support the national defense strategy. Tony transformed congressional engagement norms amidst coronavirus limitations, leading more than 40 remote and virtual engagements between Air Force senior leaders and U.S. Senators, exponentially increasing trust and mutual understanding.

Tony's innovative efforts and trusted credibility on Capitol Hill enabled the passage of foundational legislation in support of Air Force priorities, securing more than \$170 billion in annual requirements and directly contributing to the stand-up of the United States Space Force. All of these conversations and engagements helped stakeholders understand the defense equities and impact on national security. Tony remained engaged with Members of Congress to ensure all were informed, advised, and educated on initiatives important to the Air Force and the citizens of this great country. Due to his direct involvement and stewardship, Members of Congress were able to make informed decisions and ensure the Department of the Air Force was properly resourced and funded.

After concluding this challenging assignment, Lieutenant Colonel Santino will move to his next duty station at Vandenberg AFB, where he will be the director of operations for the 576th Flight Test Squadron. Tony has sacrificed much in service to our Nation. I am eternally thankful for Tony's selfless service and superb work with my office and the Senate over the past 18 months on issues important to the State of Iowa and this great Nation. I salute this American patriot whose selfless service has kept our country safe and strong.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE LINTON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT RADIO PROGRAM

• Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, as another school year comes to a close, I want to recognize the students at one North Dakota school for their accomplishments in a remarkable program. Students in Linton operate my State's first and only high school radio station. KLHS AM 1620 is a full-fledged AM station that went live in 2017. Since then, it has given students hands-on experience in broadcasting, interviewing, and news writing.

KLHS and now KLPS play rock, oldies, and country music and feature local weather, news, and sports. It is all done by the students enrolled in the Linton High School radio broadcasting classes who write and produce all programs heard on the air. While mastering broadcasting, they also learn to operate a console board and other skills like speaking, articulation, production, script writing, and interviewing.

These Linton students have also attended the annual national conferences of the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System, and their accomplishments have been recognized with many awards. At this year's conference, the Linton students took home 20 Golden Microphone Awards, in categories such as best promotional event, most creative show, best station logo, best sports play-by-play, and best website.

I also want to salute the founder of the Linton High School program, longtime State radio veteran Jay Schmaltz. The idea for a high school broadcasting program originated after he became the supervisor of the Emmons County alternative education programs. Today, it is the most popular elective class at the school and remains the only high school radio station in North Dakota.

Mr. President, there are many good jobs in broadcasting in North Dakota and around the world. These Linton High School students are receiving a head start in the professional world of communications and will be able to apply the valuable skills they learn in many directions in their future professions. I commend Linton High School for offering such a valuable program and Jay Schmaltz for his dedication to its success, and I congratulate the Linton High School broadcasting students for recognizing the value of learning a skill that will benefit them the rest of their lives. I know we will be hearing much more from these broadcasting entrepreneurs for many years to come.●

REMEMBERING ERNEST EDISON WEST

• Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, Ernest Edison West not only served his country in the U.S. Army during the Korean

war but embarked on a lifetime of service, consistently demonstrating courage, selflessness, and, above all, brotherhood. Orphaned at an early age, Mr. West was raised in a children's home that stressed this important concept—a value that was repeatedly put to the test in the Korean war. Once, despite losing an eye under intense enemy gunfire, he retreated and saved two wounded fellow soldiers and carried his injured patrol leader to safety while killing three enemy combatants. In the immediate aftermath, he said he had no idea that he was even wounded and that his fellow soldiers would have done the same for him.

President Dwight Eisenhower was set to award Ernest the Medal of Honor. His sense of brotherhood on full display, West initially declined, asserting that everyone was doing his duty and that all were equal to him. He reluctantly accepted the Medal of Honor and was later awarded a Purple Heart.

Fortunately, Mr. West's selfless service did not end with his enlistment.

In 1954, he married Gwendolyn Stafford in a nationally televised ceremony on an episode of the CBS show "Bride and Groom." He and Gwen moved back to Wurtland, KY, along the Ohio River in beautiful Greenup County. There, Ernest would later serve as mayor and play a huge part in creating a State veterans cemetery, where he is now buried.

Mayor West was admired for his willingness to get his hands dirty—quite literally—like digging water lines along county roads. He coached youth basketball and football and used sports to pass along his strong sense of brotherhood. How can we even measure the impact he made on all of those young lives?

Ernest Edison West, who was born in Russell, KY, on September 2, 1931, died this year on May 1, at the age of 89. While his daughter, Amy Hogsett, his many grandchildren, his community, and the Commonwealth are saddened to say goodbye to this extraordinary man, we are not left emptyhanded. We are left with a powerful example of brotherhood lived out.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:17 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2911. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a plan for obligating and expending Coronavirus pandemic funding made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to 14 U.S.C. 1903(b), and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Coast Guard